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**Special Committee on the Charter of the
United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role
of the Organization**

20–28 February 2018

Draft report*Rapporteur:* Mr. Luke **Tang** (Singapore)**III. Peaceful settlement of disputes****B. Proposal by the Russian Federation to recommend that the
Secretariat be requested to establish a website on the peaceful
settlement of disputes and update the *Handbook on the Peaceful
Settlement of Disputes between States***

1. During the general exchange of views held at the 287th meeting of the Special Committee, on 20 February 2018, and at the 3rd meeting of the Working Group of the Whole, on 23 February, the sponsor delegation recalled its proposal, as revised in 2014 (see A/69/33, para. 52), that the Special Committee consider requesting the Secretariat to establish a website, within existing resources, dedicated to the peaceful settlement of disputes between States, which would include references to relevant United Nations documents, as well as to the United Nations and other organs active in the field, and to update the *Handbook on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes between States*, prepared by the United Nations in 1992. It was recalled that the *Handbook* had been prepared on the basis of an earlier initiative of the Special Committee (see General Assembly resolutions 39/79 and 39/88 of 13 December 1984).

2. Several delegations voiced support for the proposal in the general exchange of views and in the Working Group of the Whole. The view was expressed that updating the *Handbook* and establishing a website on the means for the peaceful settlement of disputes would be useful to all Member States. It was maintained that updating the *Handbook* and establishing a website would likely not require additional resources.

3. Some delegations emphasized that the proposal had been on the agenda of the Special Committee for several years and requested that it be given thorough consideration. Some other delegations questioned the added value of the proposal given the availability of other sources of information online, including a number of websites of international organizations or specialized agencies of the United Nations. Concern was also expressed that it would not be a proper prioritization of the limited resources allocated to the Secretariat. The sponsor delegation asked that the proposal be retained on the agenda of the Special Committee.

